

The Herald and News.

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BLEASE ON WILLIAMS WATSON AND HUDSON

STATES HIS POSITION FULLY, ANSWERING REPORTS.

What the Governor Wrote Mr. Watson. Time Enough When Watson's Term is Out.

When asked while in Newberry Thursday as to the report that Ira W. Williams of the government farm demonstration work, has been transferred from this State to Georgia, "supposedly because of opposition of the governor," and that Commissioner Watson is to be displaced when his term expires, and that the place had been offered to A. D. Hudson, of Newberry, Governor Blease said:

"I have seen the article in today's State to which I suppose you refer. I was informed some time since that Ira W. Williams was to be transferred from this State. To what point I do not know. Mr. Williams supported me in the campaign of 1910, so I have been reliably informed, and he and I are the best of friends, and I am sorry that he is going to leave this State. The statement that he and I are at enmity, or that he is leaving on account of any feeling between himself and myself, is absolutely and unqualifiedly false. I would be glad if Mr. Williams would stay in the State, and if he will stay I will ask the legislature to keep up the appropriation for his department, and do next year, as I have done this year, all in my power to assist him in his demonstration work. I have never offered Mr. Watson's position to anybody, but merely stated on one occasion to John Richards that I was sorry he accepted the railroad commission position, because I expected to appoint him commissioner of agriculture, and the report that I have offered Mr. Watson's position to one or two others is absolutely false. As to Mr. Hudson, he told me emphatically on two occasions that he did not want Watson's position. I am informed, however, that he would accept the position held by Williams.

"As to the letter to Commissioner Watson, I wrote him that my understanding was that he was appointed commissioner of agriculture for South Carolina, and not the United States, and that if he left the State again without my permission, I would declare his office vacant, and put someone in it who would stay at home and attend to it. I meant that and shall carry it out to the letter. Copies of my letter and his reply are on file in my office, to which the newspapers are welcome, as there are no secrets in the governor's office. Everything that is done there is open and aboveboard, and there are no secrets from the people.

"As to the next State farm demonstration agent being acceptable to the governor, as I understand, this is a matter in the hands of the United States department, with which I have nothing to do. I know nothing of Mr. Baker's candidacy for the position. I shall uphold the department of agriculture and the farm demonstration work, and do everything within my power to make it a success. And if I had been consulted this year in regard to the departments, I think I could have given some very valuable suggestions, and possibly saved some people from putting themselves in very awkward positions. But as I have not been consulted in regard to any matter, I am in no manner, shape or form responsible for the turn affairs have taken.

"When Mr. Watson's term expires, it will then be time enough for me to consider whether I shall reappoint him or give the position to some one else. I understand that the constitution forbids life tenure of office, and I do not presume there is any exception made in the case of the commissioner of agriculture.

As to Pardons.

Asked as to the charge that his commutations and pardons were a slap in the faces of judges and jurors, the governor said:

"I have paroled, pardoned and com-

mutated a good many people. It has not been intended as a reflection upon any one. In many instances, judge, solicitor and jurors have signed the petitions, the records are public, and are on file in the office, and open for inspection to all parties, and the reasons for each will be properly transmitted to general assembly at the right time, as required by the constitution. However, if any one has been hit, I have no apologies to make and no excuses to give. I have done what I conceived to be my duty. I presume that the other officers have done likewise."

Statement of Mr. Hudson.

Mr. A. D. Hudson requested that the interview given out by Governor Blease be read over to him, and Mr. Hudson gave out the following statement:

"In my interview with Governor Blease some days ago, the subject of the commissioner of agriculture was mentioned only in the connection that he felt that the present commissioner was not doing successfully the work outlined for him. The question of my being a candidate for the position was not discussed, even remotely, and he in no way tendered me the position; in fact, stated that unless there be some change in the present policy of the office, that the office would be discontinued. I am in no sense a candidate or applicant either for Col. Watson's or Mr. Williams' position."

CHRISTMAS CLEMENCY TO 30.

Blease Grants Pardons to 8 and Pardons to 22—All Sections of State Affected.

Columbia, Dec. 23.—Thirty prisoners were given their liberty today as a Christmas gift by Gov. Blease, eight being granted full pardons and twenty-two paroled, of the number being nine who were serving life terms for murder and eight serving terms for manslaughter.

One of the life-termers, Henry Davis, sent up from Williamsburg county for murder, must leave the State within 12 hours and never return. A like condition is imposed on the parole of George W. Ennis, sent up for life from Barnwell for arson, only he is given 24 hours in which to get out of the State. This is said to be the largest number turned loose at one time in a number of years.

Those among the number granted clemency who were at the penitentiary were released this afternoon and will be able to eat Christmas dinner with home folks.

The Newberry cases are as follows: Marion Dawkins, convicted before Judge Izlar, at Newberry, in March, 1890, of arson, and sentenced to 25 years imprisonment in the State penitentiary, was pardoned.

Fed Hodge, alias Fed Hopkins, convicted in July, 1888, at Newberry, of burglary and larceny and sentenced by Judge Witherspoon to life imprisonment in the State penitentiary, was pardoned.

Will Johnson, convicted in Newberry county in 1907, before Judge Gary, of manslaughter and sentenced to five years' imprisonment, paroled during good behavior.

Church of the Redeemer.

(Rev. Edw. Fulenwider, pastor.)

The following program of divine services has been arranged for the Lutheran Church of the Redeemer next Sunday:

11 a. m. The regular morning service. The pastor will preach on the subject, "The Rock of Destiny." Old Simeon speaking of Jesus soon after his birth said, "Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising again of many in Israel." In the holy Scripture Jesus is often spoken of as a rock against which many shall dash to pieces, as well as a rock on which many shall find refuge against the heating storm. The Christ, whose birthday we have just celebrated with great rejoicing, is the rock set in the midst of the stream of history that none can pass without having their destiny affected. Some important lessons looking to the new year will be presented in the sermon.

4 p. m. The regular meeting of the Sunday school.

7.30 p. m. Union services.

A cordial invitation to all the services is extended the public.

SILVERSTREET AFFAIR HAS FATAL RESULT

LUTHER BLEDSOE DIES FROM GUN SHOT WOUND.

Mayor B. M. Havird Charged With the Killing—Mayor Havird Was Also Shot.

Silverstreet, in this county, was the scene on Saturday morning of a difficulty in which the mayor of the town was engaged, and in which the mayor and another citizen of the town, Luther Bledsoe, were wounded, Bledsoe's wounds later proving fatal. Bledsoe died early on Christmas morning, and Mayor Havird was lodged in jail Christmas day. Mayor Havird was shot by Will V. Bledsoe, a brother of Luther Bledsoe, after Mayor Havird had shot Luther Bledsoe. Will V. Bledsoe was arrested, and is out on bond. Mayor Havird's wounds are not regarded as very serious.

The trouble, it appears, started in a personal difficulty between Mayor B. M. Havird and Mail Carrier Duke Sheppard. In the fistcuff which ensued, Mayor Havird dropped some keys and possibly other articles, out of his pockets. It seems that Mayor Havird after the difficulty went out and secured his gun. Luther Bledsoe, who was in the store of H. C. Lake at the time of the fight, picked up the articles which Mayor Havird had dropped out of his pocket, and was later offering to return them to Mayor Havird, when the mayor shot Luther Bledsoe, the load from the shot gun taking effect in the calf of the leg. It is said Mayor Havird thought Bledsoe was drawing a weapon upon him. Then, it appears, Will V. Bledsoe shot Mayor Havird with a pistol, the bullet penetrating the hip.

Drs. W. E. Pelham, Jr., and James K. Gilder were called and went to Silverstreet on the early train. At that time Bledsoe was very weak from the loss of blood, and there was very little hope of his recovery.

Sheriff Buford went to Silverstreet on Saturday, and placed Havird and Will V. Bledsoe under arrest, and they were released on bond. When the news was received here that Luther Bledsoe had died, Sheriff Buford returned to Silverstreet and brought Havird to jail here. Havird is represented by Eugene S. Blease, Esq.

Luther Bledsoe, the deceased, was about 23 years old. He was the son of James B. Bledsoe, of Saluda county. He was buried at Hickory Grove church, in Saluda county, on Tuesday.

Coroner John Henry Chappell went to Silverstreet on Tuesday and held an inquest. The verdict was to the effect that Luther Bledsoe came to his death from a gun-shot wound at the hands of B. M. Havird.

Following is the testimony taken at the inquest:

Testimony.

"H. C. Lake, sworn says: Mr. Havird spoke and said, what in the devil are you having such a man as Mat Berry laying around you, and you holding a prominent position as you are holding—you are no better than he is. About that time one or the other called the other a damn lie. At that moment Duke Sheppard struck Mayor Havird side the head with his first and knocked him to the floor. Mayor Havird rose and struck Duke Sheppard; they then clinched each other. Sheppard got Havird's thumb in his mouth, and Bill Bledsoe and myself tried to part them. We could not part them, and Luther Bledsoe ran in and caught around Mr. Havird, and we pulled them apart. Havird fell back on the floor and Luther Bledsoe helped him up. I tried to push Havird out of the door. Havird's money, keys and knife fell on the floor, and Luther Bledsoe picked them up. Bledsoe first handed him his knife. When he saw Duke Sheppard with his knife, Havird then opened his knife and made back at Sheppard. Havird then said, get out of the way, I will cut his damn guts out. Duke Sheppard ran out of the store. Havird followed him on out. Sheppard went across the street, on the opposite side. Havird went straight to his house. Sheppard went up nearly opposite Havird's house and turned back towards the depot. When

HOLIDAYS CHARMINGLY SPENT IN PROSPERITY

MANY VISITORS ADDED TO JOY OF THE SEASON.

Social Affairs Delightfully Characteristic of a Delightful Town—Personal Mention.

Prosperity, Dec. 28.—Prof. and Mrs. Laurence Sease, of Clemson college, are spending the holidays with Dr. G. Y. Hunter.

Miss Julia Matthews, of Ninety Six, is the guest of the Misses Werts.

Mrs. J. P. Mahon and daughter, Rebecca, of Newberry, spent Wednesday with Mrs. E. E. Young.

Mrs. Kenneth Baker, of Greenwood, and Miss Mae Lee Barre, of Chattanooga, are visiting their sister, Mrs. E. W. Werts.

Misses Nell Kohn and Kathleen Merchant, of Columbia, are spending this week with Miss Mary Lizzie Wise.

Mrs. C. L. Pitts has returned to Silverstreet, after a visit to her aunt, Mrs. G. M. Able.

Miss Minnie Hentz, of Pomaria, is spending a few days with Miss Julia Schumpert.

Miss Isoline Wyche has as her guest Miss Florie Bates, of Orangeburg.

Prof. W. E. Monts has gone to Anderson to visit friends.

Mrs. M. C. Morris has returned home after a visit to her mother in Lykesland.

Mr. E. G. Counts and family are spending this week in Spartanburg. Misses Bertha Morris, of Lykesland, and Alma Haynes, of Spartanburg, are visiting Rev. S. C. Morris.

Mrs. B. L. Wheeler, of Columbia, is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Counts.

Dr. C. K. Wheeler, of Columbia, spent Monday in town.

Prof. E. S. Werts has returned to Memphis, Tenn., after a visit to Mr. J. M. Werts.

Messrs. O. L. F. H. and H. B. Schumpert are spending the holidays with their mother, Mrs. Fannie Schumpert.

Mr. J. P. Cannon and Mr. and Mrs. H. Sam Cannon, of Columbia, are visiting their sister, Mrs. M. H. Boozer.

Messrs. R. P. Luther, of Atlanta, and J. D. Luther, of Columbia, are spending this week with Dr. and Mrs. R. L. Luther.

Mr. J. L. Wise left Monday for St. Louis, to purchase a car of mules.

Miss Lucy Wheeler, of Augusta, is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. T. I. Wheeler.

Dr. Arthur Black, of Charleston, is spending the week with his brother, Mr. A. L. Black.

Mr. Charlie Epting has returned to Leesville, after spending a few days with Mrs. G. M. Able.

Mrs. T. H. Thompson spent Christmas day with his father, Mr. J. Y. Thompson.

Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Cook, of Montgomery, Ala., are in town.

Mr. and Mrs. Pat Kennedy, of Due West, are guests of Mrs. Alice Witherspoon.

Misses Lena and Laura Lester spent Sunday in town, returning on Monday to Columbia.

Mr. L. G. Fellers has returned to

Sheppard was opposite Paysinger's house, I heard a gun-shot about Havird's house. I heard Mrs. Havird hollering and saw Havird coming down street with his gun in his hand. It was a double-barrel shot-gun. Havird came on to his store, and Bill and Luther Bledsoe were about Bill Bledsoe's. Bill and Luther Bledsoe and myself went out to meet him. Havird said, where is Duke Sheppard? I told him he had gone to the depot. I said, go put up your gun. Havird replied, I will shoot the damn — — — Luther said, Mr. Havird, he has done gone. Havird said, what have you to do with it? Luther said, I have nothing to do with it, I want to give you keys or money (I don't know which). Luther Bledsoe ran his hand in his right pocket, and I told him to go back to his store. About that time the gun fired. Havird fired the gun that hit Bledsoe in the leg.

"This happened in Newberry county the 23rd of December, 1911.

"(Signed) H. C. Lake."

Winnboro, after a visit to the home folks.

Mr. and Mrs. E. D. Bedenbaugh, of Atlanta, are guests of Rev. Z. W. Bedenbaugh.

Miss Annie Wheeler is spending this week in Peak, the guest of Miss Rosalie Suber.

Dr. J. A. Hunt, of Statesboro, Ga., was registered at Wise hotel Monday and Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Hunter, Mrs. Sarah Fellers and Miss Della Welch, of Newberry, attended the Bowers-Hunter wedding Wednesday evening.

Rev. E. W. Leslie will preach Sunday morning in Grace church, and in the afternoon at Mount Tabor.

Again the charming bride-elect, Miss Bowers was given a linen shower by Miss Hattie Groseclose, at the home of Mr. L. A. Black, on Monday afternoon. The guests were received by Mrs. L. A. Black and ushered to the cloak room by Misses Addie Werts and Ethel Counts and there received by Miss Davis. There a lovely score card on which was stencilled Cupid with all his arts, was given each guest, and a most original and unique progressive game was played. At the first table was the wedding bell, second, hearts, third traveling bag, and last the bride flowers—which were all hand painted and very beautiful. The prize was won by Miss Ellen Werts, a bottle of toilet water, which Miss Werts very gracefully presented to Miss Bowers. Then a delicious two course luncheon was served. After this tempting course Miss Bowers robbed the mails, where she found many useful and dainty articles. As a souvenir of the afternoon Miss Bowers was presented with a book which contained a toast from each guest.

MISS RUSSELL TO TALK.

Winthrop's Superintendent of Rural School Work to Address Newberry Teachers in January.

Mr. E. H. Aull, who will assume the duties of county superintendent of education some time early in January, has received an acceptance from Miss Leila A. Russell, of Winthrop college, of an invitation extended Miss Russell by Mr. Aull to address the teachers of the county at their regular monthly meeting to be held in January.

Miss Russell is superintendent of the rural school work of the college, and will probably talk on a subject in line with the work which she is in charge of. She is doing a fine work in the interest of the rural schools, and her address will be of value to the teachers of this county. The meeting has been postponed from Saturday, January 13, to Saturday, January 20. It will be held in the Martin street high school building. It is earnestly desired that every teacher in the county and as many of the trustees as can, will attend this meeting. Mr. Aull is looking forward to a great deal of help in his work from these monthly teachers' meetings, and he believes that if the proper interest is taken in the county association it can be made of a great deal of value to the teachers and to the schools of the city and county generally. With this idea in view, he wants to enlist the active interest, not only of the teachers, but of the trustees of the various schools of the county.

The January meeting on the 20th of the month, is scheduled to begin promptly at 11 o'clock.

Atlantic Coast Line Railroad Company

Holiday Excursion Rates.

Account of the holidays, the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad offers special round trip excursion rates between all points, good on all trains scheduled to stop at respective points. Tickets on sale December 15th, 16th, 17th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 30th, 31st, and January 1st, 1912. Final return limit January 8th, 1912.

For rates and other information, see local agent, or address

T. C. White, Gen. Pass. Agent, Wilmington, N. C.

W. J. Craig, Pass. Traffic Agent, Wilmington, N. C.

UNLESS HE GETS MORE LIGHT WILL NOT PARDON

GOVERNOR BLEASE ON THE GARLINGTON-YOUNG PETITION.

Thinks All the Facts Have Not Been Candidly Stated by the Convicted Men.

While he was in Newberry Thursday Governor Blease was asked if he had yet reached any conclusion in regard to the petition for pardon for Garlington and Young. Governor Blease said:

"I am waiting for a reply to my letter to the Seminole trustees and receivers, which I suppose will be forthcoming before January 1. But with the present light before me, I shall not interfere with the sentence as imposed by the courts. While my deepest sympathy goes out to these young men and their families, still I am satisfied that they are concealing matters which belong to the public, and I do not think they are entitled to any clemency for themselves as long as they are helping to conceal the offences of others."

Governor Blease, when asked in this connection as to the statement made to him by Garlington, said:

"I am satisfied that Garlington told a good deal of the truth, and I am equally well satisfied that he concealed more than he told."

NEWS OF EXCELSIOR.

Annual Christmas Tree of Excelsior Sunday School—Other News of the Holiday Season.

Excelsior, Dec. 28.—We had a quiet Christmas, but a wet, muddy one.

We missed The Herald and News on Tuesday and couldn't feel right without it.

Miss Marie Polatty, of Columbia, spent Christmas with Miss Eunice Alewine.

Miss Lucy Wheeler, of Augusta, Ga., spent Christmas with her parents here.

Miss Pet Dominick, of Newberry, spent Christmas at her home here.

Mr. and Mrs. Aumerle Lorick, of Irmo, spent Christmas with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Lorick.

Dr. R. C. Kibler spent Christmas with friends in Laurens.

Mr. Ernest Alewine, of Peaks, has been on a few days' visit home.

Mrs. B. L. Wheeler, of Columbia, is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Counts.

Mr. Jacob Singley, of Clemson college, spent Christmas at his home here.

Prof. Aumerle Singley, principal of the Saluda school, is spending the holidays at home.

Miss Rosine Singley, a student of the Orangeburg school, is at home for the holidays.

Mr. Lee Roy Bradley spent a few days of last week with his folks in Georgia.

Mr. Pearl Watts, of Columbia, is at his mother's for the holidays.

Mr. Oscar Peterson, of Newberry, is visiting Mr. J. C. Singley's family.

Messrs. Arthur Lee Wheeler and Elton Stone came up from Columbia and spent Christmas at home.

Mrs. T. L. B. Epps and children, of Union section, are visiting her sister, Mrs. J. D. Stone.

Mr. Enos Counts, wife and children, are spending this week with relatives at Spartanburg.

Excelsior school had their Christmas tree Monday afternoon, and notwithstanding the wet weather, there was a large crowd present to enjoy the occasion.

Miss Rosalee Wheeler, the teacher, had her pupils well trained. The pupils assembled on the outside and came marching in singing a beautiful song appropriate to the occasion, along with the sweet music of the organ. The exercises consisted of a speech by each of the pupils along with a few nice songs, all appropriate to the Christmas season. The tree was filled with nice presents, which were distributed and all present enjoyed the occasion. Santa Claus was present and amused the audience very much. May all present live to enjoy another Christmas season.